

### **REMARKS**

This responds to the Office Action mailed on May 4, 2005.

Claims 1, 5-7, 9 and 13-15 are amended, claims 4 and 12 are canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-16 are now pending in this application.

#### **§112 Rejection of the Claims**

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as lacking adequate description or enablement. Applicant has amended claims 1, 9, 5-7 and 13-15 to address the items raised in paragraphs 6-1 to 6-4 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 4-7 and 12-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as lacking adequate description or enablement. The Office Action states that it is unclear how a timing strength is determined based on Table 6 at page 21. Applicant respectfully submits that the timing strength calculation is adequately described in the specification. As noted on page 21, the various endpoints at the extremes are assigned strengths of 1-10. Thus according to table 6, when the timing is at or near the minimum endpoint, the timing strength is 10. When the timing is at or near the maximum endpoint, the timing strength is 1. Thus Table 6, when read in conjunction with the specification, adequately describes and enables pending claims 5-7 and 13-15. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for indefiniteness. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 9 to address the items raised in paragraphs 9-1 to 9-3 of the Office Action. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

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*§102 Rejection of the Claims*

Claims 1-3 and 9-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for anticipation by Gomaa, "Structuring and Configuring Distributed Applications", International Workshop on Configurable Distributed Systems, March, 1992, pages 18-32. As discussed below, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 9 to include subject matter that has been indicated as allowable. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-3 and 9-11.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

Claims 4-8 and 12-16 were indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112 set forth in the Office Action. As noted above, Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112 set forth in the Office Action. Applicant has elected to amend claims 1 and 9 to include the elements of dependent claims 4 and 12 respectively. Applicant believes this amendment to have the same subject matter effect as rewriting claims in the manner originally suggested in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3, 5-11 and 13-16 are now allowable and respectfully requests allowance of the pending claims.

**CONCLUSION**

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (612) 373-6954 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

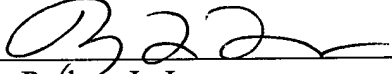
If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

ELIZABETH SISLEY

By his Representatives,

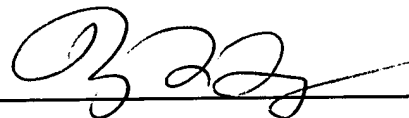
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Date November 4, 2005 By   
Rodney L. Lacy  
Reg. No. 41,136

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 4th day of November, 2005.

Rodney L. Lacy

Name



Signature